

IN THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently amended) A method for performing an online upgrade to a JAVA application, the method comprising:

executing an application in a middle-tier between a client browser and databases, the application having an original service module and an original control module, wherein the original control module includes application-specific policies for the application defining application-specific strategies and policies for the application, and the original service module includes actual code for the application;

generating an upgraded control module defining upgraded application-specific policies relative to the original control module, the upgraded control module being defined by upgraded class files loaded from a system repository that is part of the databases; and

creating an upgraded service module using the upgraded control module, the upgraded service module is generated using upgraded class files for the upgraded service module loaded from the system repository, the application providing online execution services when upgrading the original control module and original service module.

2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the operation of disabling requests to the original service module.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the operation of enabling requests to the upgraded service module.

6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the operation of upgrading a child application using the upgraded control module.

7. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising the operation of passing the application-specific policies to a control module of the child application.

8. (Currently amended) A JAVA platform capable of performing online software upgrades, the JAVA platform comprising:

an application in a middle-tier between a client browser and databases, the application having an original service module and an original control module, wherein the original control module includes application-specific policies for the application defining application-specific strategies and policies for the application, the original service module includes actual code for the application; and

a repository that is part of the databases having upgraded class files for the original control module and upgraded class files for the original service module,

wherein the original control module is upgraded by generating an upgraded control module defining upgraded application-specific policies relative to the original control module, the upgraded control module being defined by upgraded class files loaded from the system repository that is part of the databases, and wherein the original service module is upgraded by creating an upgraded service module using the upgraded control module, the

upgraded service module is generated using upgraded class files for the upgraded service module loaded from the system repository, the application providing online execution services when upgrading the original control module and original service module.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously presented) A JAVA platform as recited in claim 8, wherein requests to the original service module are disabled during upgrade of the original service module.

11. (Previously presented) A JAVA platform as recited in claim 10, wherein requests to the upgraded service module are enabled during upgrade of the original service module.

12. (Previously presented) A JAVA platform as recited in claim 8, wherein the upgraded control module is capable of initiating the upgrade of a child application.

13. (Previously presented) A JAVA platform as recited in claim 12, wherein the application-specific policies are passed to a control module of the child application during the upgrade of a child application.

14.- 21. (Cancelled)